

RADIATION AND MELT TREATED ULTRA HIGH MOLECULAR WEIGHT
POLYETHYLENE PROSTHETIC DEVICES

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A medical prosthesis for use within the body which is formed of radiation treated ultra high molecular weight polyethylene having substantially no detectable free radicals, is described. Preferred prostheses exhibit reduced production of particles from the prosthesis during wear of the prosthesis, and are substantially oxidation resistant. Methods of manufacture of such devices and material used therein are also provided.